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Questions relating to information

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations

Letter dated 6 January 2004 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I would like to address an important matter that is a constant focus of attention in the United Nations as well as the international community. I refer to the issue of payments by Member States to the United Nations regular budget.

Azerbaijan has always taken very seriously its financial obligations to the Organization and, as a clear testimony to that important commitment, it has steadily found its place in the Budget Honour Roll for four consecutive years since 2000, together with a limited group of other Member States that have made it a meritorious practice to meet their financial obligations to the United Nations in full and on time and, for the last two years, even in advance.

As far as contributions to the United Nations regular budget of 2004 are concerned, the Government of Azerbaijan has made its current payment, again in full and in advance, on 22 December 2003. The receipt of the contribution has been respectively acknowledged by notes from the Secretary-General dated 23 and 30 December 2003. Moreover, a substantial amount of credits and overpayments by Azerbaijan, equalling more than half of its contribution to the regular budget, still remains in a suspense account in favour of the Government of Azerbaijan.

Taking the above-mentioned into account, I should be grateful if Azerbaijan's continued commendable commitment to meet its financial obligations to the United Nations in full and in advance could be duly reflected in the Budget Honour Roll for 2004 that has been recently posted on the web site of the Office of the Spokesman for the Secretary-General.

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I would also appreciate if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 86 and 124.

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations